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COUNTRY

El Salvador

DATE DISTR.

14 December 1948

SUBJECT

PLACE ACQUIRED DATE OF I President Castaneda's Probable Support of UNF

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Demands

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- 1. Rolando Velazquez, Press Secretary to President Castaneda of El Salvador, indicated on 18 November that the President would wholeheartedly approve the following demands of the Union de Trabajadores Ferrocarrileros (UTF):
 - a. Discussion of the proposed collective contract.
 - Reopening of the UTF branches at La Union and Acajutla which were closed by government order.
- 2. Velazquez also felt that there was some chance that Castaneda would agree to the dismissal of three foremen of the International Railways of Central America (IRCA) who have been subject to attacks by the UTF for many months.
- 3. Velazquez was delegated by Castaneda to interview President Benjamin Rejia of the UTF after previous attempts by Salvador Guandique had failed to obtain presidential support for the union demands.
- 4. Castaneda stated that the union, five thousand strong, constituted a powerful political force and could not be ignored.

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